## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 AID-05 /052 W -------200205Z 098874 /64

R 191430Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4051
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMCONSUL ZAGREB

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 0128

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAID. GY, YO

SUBJECT: VISIT OF YUGOSLAV MISSION TO GUYANA

1. DURING CALL ON CHARGE YESTERDAY (JANUARY 18), YUGOSLAV CONSULTANTS ZDRAVKO SVIGIR, HEAD OF REGIONAL PLANNING GROUP IN TOWN PLANNING INSTITUTE OF CROATIA, AND BORIS VOKONIC, SENIOR PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT, FACULTY OF FOREIGN TRADE AT UNIVERSITY OF ZAGREB, INDICATED GOY MAY ASSIST ON SMALL SCALE WITH DEVELOPMENT OF GUYANESE TOURIST FACILITIES IN THE INTERIOR. BOTH REPRESENTATIVES THOUGH WERE PESSIMISTIC OF ANY LARGE SCALE YUGOSLAV ASSISTANCE IN THIS AREA OR EVEN OF THE FEASIBILITY OF DEVELOPING SUCH FACILITIES CITING THE TOTAL LACK OF INFRASTRUCTURE, TRAINED PERSONNEL AND FINANCING. VUKONIC THOUGHT THAT AT THIS TIME ONLY VIABLE LOCATION FOR DOMESTIC TOURIST DEVELOPMENT IS KAITEUR FALLS IN CENTRAL GUYANA AND ORINDUIK FALLS ON BRAZILIAN-GUYANESE BORDER. CONSULTANTS INDICATED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS AND GOY DECISION IN THIS MATTER WOULD BE FORTHCOMING IN APPROXIMATELY 4-6 MONTHS.

2. LOCAL PRESS HERE INITIALLY GAVE PROMINENT PLAY TO ARRIVAL OF YUGOSLAV MISSION JANUARY 8 UNDER AUSPICES OF MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SINCE GOG HAS

STRONG INTEREST IN DEVELOPING TOURIST INFRASTRUCTURE PRIMARILY FOR DOMESTIC USE. GOG HOPES EVENTUALLY TO BE ABLE TO CHANGE PREFERENCE OF GUYANESE FROM NIAGARA FALLS TO KAITEUR FALLS PRESUMABLY IF FOREIGN CURRENCY EXCHANGE RESTRICTIONS FOR HOLIDAY TRAVEL MUST REMAIN IN FORCE IN FORESEEABLE FUTURE. GUYANESE WOULD THEN HAVE TO CHANGE THEIR PREFERENCES FROM BRIGHT LIGHTS OF CANADA, U.S., AND GREAT BRITIAN TO SCENIC WONDERS OF MATTHEWS RIDGE, LETHEM AND THE TWO FALLS THAT WERE THE PRIMARY AREAS SURVEYED BY YUGOSLAV TEAM. WE BELIEVE GOG WOULD BE OVERLY OPTIMISTIC IN THIS REGARD.

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NNN

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TAGS: EAID, GY, YO, (SVIGIR, ZDRAVKO), (VOKONIC, BORIS)

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